#### CHAPTER 5. PLANS AND POLICIES

In addition to the Implementation Plan, many other plans and policies direct State and Regional Board actions or clarify the Regional Board's intent. The following pages contain brief descriptions of State Board plans and policies and numerous Regional Board plans and policies. Copies of the State and Regional Board policies are contained in the Appendix.

# I. STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD PLANS AND POLICIES

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) has adopted a number of plans and policies for Statewide water quality management including:

State Policy for Water Quality Control (1972)

Anti-degradation Policy

Thermal Plan

Bays and Estuaries Policy

Power Plant Cooling Policy

Reclamation Policy

Shredder Waste Disposal Policy

Underground Storage Tank Pilot Program

Sources of Drinking Water Policy

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (January 2000)Nonpoint Source Management Plan

Ocean Plan

Discharges of Municipal Solid Waste Policy

Should any of these policies be amended by the State Board, the Regional Board will implement the amended version.

The following sections summarize the adopted policiesy. The complete policy is available in the "Attachments" section of this document.

Revise the September 8, 1994 Basin Plan, Chapter 5, Pages V-3 and V-4, Section I.J. NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN as follows:

### I.J. NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Resolution R3-2002-0093: Adopting policy regarding the State Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (January 2000).

The "Nonpoint Source Management Plan", Resolution 88 123, was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on November 15, 1988 pursuant to Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The Plan identifies nonpoint source control programs and milestones for their accomplishment. It emphasizes cooperation with local governments and other agencies to promote the implementation of Best Management Practices and remedial projects.

In November 1988, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a Nonpoint Source Management Plan that outlined steps to initiate the systematic management of nonpoint sources in California. The Nonpoint Source Management Plan was revised to the "Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (January 2000)" in December 1999 (www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3/). Resolution 99-114, revising the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on December 14, 1999 pursuant to Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.

The 2000 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program is a coordinated statewide approach to managing nonpoint source pollution structured around 61 management measures. Management measures serve as goals for the control and prevention of polluted runoff. Site-specific management practices are used to achieve the goals of each management measure. Implementation of management measures will occur using a fifteen-year strategy with three nested five-year implementation plans. The fifteen-year strategy and each five-year implementation plan use an iterative program process.

Revise the September 8, 1994 Basin Plan.
Chapter 5, Page V-7, Section III.G.
EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION
CONTROL as follows:

#### III.G. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL

- 1. General recommendations for erosion control, numbered one through six under "Land Disturbance Activities" in the Implementation Plan, Chapter Four, are considered by the Regional Board to be Best Management Practices (BMP's), as are those BMP's identified in approved areawide Water Quality Management Plans.
- Local units of government should have the lead role in controlling land use activities that cause erosion and may, as necessary, impose further conditions, restrictions, or limitations on waste disposal and other activities that might degrade the quality of waters of the State.
- 3. In implementing BMP's through local units of government, or through State and federal agencies for lands under their control, working relationships, priorities, and time schedules will be defined in management agency agreements between the areawide waste treatment planning agency and the local management agency. Agreements will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect recent achievements, new information and new concerns.
- 4. Regional Board participation in sediment control programs shall include assistance in the establishment of local control programs, participation in the determination of water quality problems, and a cooperative program evaluation with local units of government. Regional Board enforcement authority will be exercised where local volunteer programs fail to correct sediment problems within a reasonable period.
- 5. Emergency projects undertaken or approved by a public agency and necessary to prevent or mitigate loss of, or damage to, life, health, property, or essential public services from an unexpected occurrence involving a clear and imminent danger

- are exempt from this chapter providing such exemption is in the public interest.
- 6. Regulation of sediment discharges from routine annual agricultural operations, such as tilling, grazing, and land grading and from construction of agricultural buildings is waived except where such activity is causing severe erosion and causing, or threatening to cause, a pollution or nuisance.
- 7. Regulation of discharges from State and federal lands managed by agencies operating in accordance with approved management agency agreements is waived except where such activity is causing, or threatening to cause, a pollution or nuisance.

"Control Actions" and "Actions by Other Authorities" in this chapter and the Implementation Plan, Chapter Four, contain further information regarding erosion and sedimentation control.

Revise the September 8, 1994 Basin Plan, Chapter 5, Pages V-13 and V-14, Section V.G. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION as follows:

## V.G. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION

- 1. Erosion from nonpoint pollution sources shall be minimized through implementation of BMP's (identified under "Management Principles" and described under "Land Disturbance Activities" in Chapter Four's "Nonpoint Source Measures" section.
- All necessary control measures for minimizing erosion and sedimentation, whether structural or vegetal, shall be properly established prior to November 15 each year.
- All structural and vegetal measures taken to control erosion and sedimentation shall be properly maintained.
- 4. A filter strip of appropriate width, and consisting of undisturbed soil and riparian vegetation or its equivalent, shall be maintained, wherever possible, between significant land disturbance activities and watercourses, lakes, bays, estuaries, marshes, and other water bodies. For construction activities, minimum width of the filter strip shall be thirty feet, wherever possible as measured along the ground surface to the highest anticipated water line.
- Design and maintenance of erosion and sediment control structures, (e.g., debris and settling basins, drainage ditches, culverts, etc.) shall comply with accepted engineering practices.
- 6. Cover crops shall be established by seeding and/or mulching, or other equally effective measures, for all disturbed areas not otherwise protected from excessive erosion.
- 7. Land shall be developed in increments of workable size that can be completed during a single construction season. Graded slope length shall not be excessive and erosion and sediment control

- measures shall be coordinated with the sequence of grading, development, and construction operations.
- 8. Use of soil sterilants is discouraged and should be minimized.

Further erosion and sedimentation information can be found in other areas of this chapter as well as the Implementation Plan, Chapter Four, under "Land Disturbance Activities."

Revise the September 8, 1994 Basin Plan, Chapter 5, Pages V-15 and V-16, Section V.H.10. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL as follows:

#### V.H.10. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL

- 1. The federal government should increase its support of erosion and sediment control programs by increasing its technical staffs, increasing cost share funds, increasing the availability of low-interest loans, and changing its income tax laws to encourage the use of Best Management Practices for erosion and sediment control.
- 2. The State of California should establish an erosion and sediment control program that includes incentives for the individual such as cost sharing, changes in State law that would reduce property taxes for enduring erosion and sediment control practices, and incentives through state income taxes.
- 3. Resource Conservation Districts within the Central Coast Region should develop management agency agreements with the Regional Board agreeing to work jointly with the Regional Board to integrate soil and water resource programs in the application of Best Management Practices to correct existing erosion and sediment problems and to prevent new problems from occurring.
- 4. Local units of government should improve land use plans to establish a clear policy, and shall adopt or improve ordinances to include definitive performance standards, for the control of erosion and sedimentation, including consistency with this Basin Plan and Best Management Practices identified under Regional Board "Management Principles."
- 5. Local units of government developing Local Coastal Programs shall establish a clear policy on erosion and sedimentation and adopt an ordinance consistent with Best Management Practices for their land areas within the Coastal Zone.
- Resource Conservation Districts, the U.S.D.A. Soil
   Conservation Service, the California Department

- of Transportation, and the Extension Service, in conjunction with the cities and counties, should develop and carry out an erosion and sediment control training program for employees who check erosion and sediment control plans and who enforce local ordinances and regulations relating to erosion and sediment control practices.
- 7. Counties and cities should work with the Regional Board to identify priorities, time schedules, and limitations and to negotiate management agency agreements concerning implementation of Best Management Practices for control of crosion and sedimentation.
- 8. Review and assessment of erosion and sediment control plans for new land developments in those counties and cities that have signed management agency agreements with the Board will be processed entirely by that county or city.